

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, and 10 stand rejected and claims 2, 3, 5, 7, and 9 are objected to. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 3, 5, 7, and 9. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, and 10 have been amended. The amendments made to the claims do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made for cosmetic reasons to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Applicant notes that the IDS submitted March 13, 1998, has not been acknowledged by the Examiner. For the Examiner's convenience, Applicant includes herewith a copy of the PTO-1449 previously filed. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge the item listed on the PTO-1449 as it was submitted in 09/039,072, and return same to Applicant.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,628,530 ("Op De Beek"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Among the limitations of independent claims 1 and 10 not present in the cited reference is a memory for storing a converted voice data of samples taken with a fixed time determined as a subject time for the delay of the reverberation characteristic or the echo characteristic.

In Op De Beek, the signal supplied from the signal source is input into frequency analyzing unit 16. The output of frequency analyzing unit 16 is used by equalizing unit 4 to correct the frequency characteristics of an electric signal. Op De

Beek does not disclose a memory for storing a converted voice data of samples taken within a fixed time determined as a subject time for the delay of the reverberation characteristic or the echo characteristic. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 10 are in condition for allowance.

Additionally, allowable claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form. As such, Applicant respectfully requests a notice of allowance.

Applicant has responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Application No.: 09/039,072

Docket No.: W1878.0109/P109

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

By

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Enclosure - Copy of PTO-1449, filed March 13, 1998

